

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A respiratory mask arrangement having a sealing lip device for resting on the facial surface of a mask user, a covering device which in cooperation with the sealing lip device defines a mask interior, a respiratory gas evacuation device for delivering respiratory gas to the mask interior defined by the covering device, this mask interior communicating with the nostril and/or the oral opening of the mask user, wherein the covering device is embodied at least in some portions as a permeable structure.
2. (Original) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the covering device is made from an air-permeable woven material, in particular Gore-Tex material.
3. (Original) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the covering device is made from a porous material.
4. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-3~~claim 1, characterized in that the covering device is made from a flexible material which is deployed in the mask interior under the influence of pressure.
5. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-4~~claim 1, characterized in that the air permeability of the air-permeable material and the area of the portion defined thereby are selected such that a sufficient outflow of gas from the mask interior is assured.

6. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-5~~claim 1, characterized in that the covering device is coupled with a headband arrangement.
7. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-6~~claim 1, characterized in that the headband arrangement is likewise used to furnish a gas outflow area.
8. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-7~~claim 1, characterized in that the sealing lip device is glued or vulcanized or sprayed onto the covering device.
9. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-7~~claim 1, characterized in that the covering device is detachably coupled with the sealing lip device.
10. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-9~~claim 1, characterized in that the sealing lip device is embodied integrally with the covering device.
11. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-10~~claim 1, characterized in that supporting wall structures are provided, for deploying the covering device.
12. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-11~~claim 1, characterized in that the supporting wall structures form part of a skeletal structure.

13. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 1-12~~claim 1, characterized in that the covering device has a hard shell body and a woven outlet portion coupled to the hard shell body.

14. (Original) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with claim 13, characterized in that the woven outlet portion has an area of at least 3.7 cm².

15. (Original) A headband arrangement for a respiratory mask, wherein the headband arrangement in at least some portions is made of an air-permeable material and includes a conduit unit which is in communication with a mask interior defined by the respiratory mask, in such a manner that an outflow from the mask interior of respiratory gas that is under pressure can be effected through the air-permeable material portion provided in the headband.

16. (Original) A respiratory mask arrangement having an arched member, a sealing lip device for resting on the facial surface of a mask user, and a respiratory gas line unit for delivering respiratory gas to a mask interior that is defined by the arched member and is in communication with the nostril and/or the oral opening of the mask user, wherein in cooperation with the arched member, an air guide path is defined that extends from a respiratory gas inlet area to a respiratory gas outlet area and extends at least in some portions along a wall delimiting the arched member.

17. (Original) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with claim 16, characterized in that the air guide path is delimited by an insert element.

18. (Original) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with claim 17, characterized in that the arched member is provided with a fixation device, for installing the insert element.

19. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-18~~claim 16, characterized in that the insert element can be installed in the inner region of the arched member.

20. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-19~~claim 16, characterized in that a receiving portion, for receiving the insert element, is embodied in the inner region of the arched member.
21. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-20~~claim 16, characterized in that conduit structures are embodied in the insert element.
22. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-21~~claim 16, characterized in that the conduit structures are adapted such that a defined flow resistance is obtained.
23. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-22~~claim 16, characterized in that the conduit portions are covered by the walls of the arched member.
24. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-23~~claim 16, characterized in that the arched member is made from an elastomer material.
25. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-24~~claim 16, characterized in that the arched member is embodied integrally with the sealing lip device.
26. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-25~~claim 16, characterized in that the arched member is provided with openings for evacuating CO₂-laden respiratory gas.

27. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-26~~claim 16, characterized in that the insert element is made from an elastomer material.

28. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-27~~claim 16, characterized in that labyrinth structures are embodied in the insert element.

29. (Currently Amended) The respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-28~~claim 16, characterized in that the insert element is coupled to the arched member by clamping action.

30. (Currently Amended) An insert element for a respiratory mask arrangement in accordance with ~~at least one of claims 16-29~~claim 16.